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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/IR
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TO AUTH. REASON(S)

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SENT TO: Amembassy TRIPOLI PRIORITY 745

RPTD INFO: Amembassy PARIS (BY POUCH)
Amembassy LONDON (BY POUGH)

Origin

Info:

Language proposed by Ben Halim (EMBTEL 689) unacceptable for same reasons set forth paragraphs (a) and (b) DEPTEL 712. It is precisely in view of fact that MA Agreement restricts use of assistance to self-defense and Pact contemplates possibility Arab League collective military action that two agreements may well conflict.

Embassy therefore instructed submit following wording to GOL which embodies in opening clause assurance USG requires and to which it is recalled Ben Halim did not object (EMBTEL 653) provided GOL received counterassurance contained concluding clause this proposal:

QUOTE The Government of the United Kingdom of Libya assures the Government of the United States of America that the Pact of the League of Arab States of March 22, 1945, is not inconsistent with this Agreement, and, in view of this assurance, the two Governments agree that, with respect to action on the part of the Government of the United Kingdom of Libya in the legitimate self-defense of its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, this Agreement does not conflict with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations or of the said Pact of the League of Arab States UNQUOTE.

You may point out to Ben Halim that recently concluded military assistance agreement with Saudi Arabia of April 2, 1957 makes no mention of Arab League

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Clearances:

AE/N - Mr. Witman Defense - Mr. Hopper (in draft)

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obligations and does stipulate that QUOTE The two Governments further agree that equipment to be provided will be used by Saudi Arabia for purpose of defending independence and territorial integrity of Saudi Arabia and for maintenance of internal security UNQUOTE.

FYI Department commends Embassy for its perseverance and hopes this issue can now be resolved and agreement signed so that effort can be made land at least token shipment equipment by end FY 1957.

Dulles

(JFD) = DULLES